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Cypress Creek Sewer Break

The Division of Public Works is actively working on making emergency repairs to a sewer break located in Cypress Creek. As a result of the recent heavy rain events, a major sanitary sewer line transporting wastewater to the TE Maxson Wastewater Treatment Plant was damaged. At approximately 3:00PM Thursday, a Public Works engineer discovered the broken 96-inch sewer line crossing South Cypress Creek. The City activated its Emergency Response Plan and steps were immediately taken to begin bypassing the wastewater around the damaged sewer line.

Public Works crews and the contractor estimate the time to construct a bypass around the damaged section of line is estimated to be 3-4 days. The contractor performing the bypass will work 24 hours a day until the bypass is in place. City crews will proceed on an emergency basis to repair this significant portion of infrastructure. Engineering design activities are underway for the replacement of the sewer line. Construction could take 3-4 months to replace the damaged sewer line with an estimated repair cost of \$8-10 million.

The location of the incident is Cypress Creek west of Paul Lowery Road between the road and McKellar Lake. Emergency work is already underway to contain sewage from the break. Sewer services to homes and businesses in this area have not, and will not be affected.

The Division of Public Works is following all required emergency response procedures to protect the water supply and the public. City crews will place warning signs in this area, advising the public to avoid contact with the creek as a result of the release of wastewater overflows. While there is no immediate threat to public health or safety, the public is asked to heed the signs and avoid contact with the affected areas.

We want to assure residents that the City of Memphis and its contractor crews will be working around the clock until the sewer line is repaired. While we believe the flow of water in Cypress will dilute the sewage enough that it will not be harmful, we will refer to the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation to respond to any environmental questions.